

2006-07 Kentucky AmeriCorps Program Funding

AmeriCorps competitive program funding is allocated among successful grant applications from all 50 states, Guam, American Samoa and Puerto Rico. This year, the Corporation for National and Community Service received 404 competitive grant applications, including applications for 278 new and 126 continuation programs.

Only 90 new programs were funded, most of which focused on disaster relief. KCCVS submitted nine competitive program applications and received funding for two new programs: Getting Things Done for Kentucky's Homeless and Louisville Metro Government. Kentucky also received funding for both continuation programs: FRYSC Corps and GRADD Homeland Security Corps.

Twelve states/territories received no funding. Kentucky's four successful programs represent a significant accomplishment for which we're grateful and proud.

In addition to our fully-funded competitive programs, the commission also supports formula-funded programs that support additional AmeriCorps members according to a population-based calculation. This year, the KCCVS saw nine member slots cut (from 98 to 89) despite having requested formula funding for 115 members. This reduction in member positions left the KCCVS Program Committee with some tough decisions to make.

The committee earlier had determined that in the event we had fewer member slots to fill, decisions would be made based on factors including geographic/political subdivisions served, alignment with the governor's initiatives and commission-defined objectives, community need, cost-benefit ratio, competitive application process rankings, number of members requested, potential for sustainability, collaboration/partnerships formed and program innovation.

After much debate, the Program Committee selected for funding the Every 1 Reads AmeriCorps Program, Kentucky Youth Leadership Corps, Senior Connections, SERV Corps and The Learning Corps.

Between competitive- and formula-funded programs, during this program year the commonwealth will benefit from the service of **175** AmeriCorps members who will be tutoring children, working with the homeless, helping the elderly remain independent, building capacity for low-income community agencies, recruiting volunteers to respond in times of disaster, mobilizing resources to address youth priorities and more.